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29 December 1982

MEMORANDUM FOR: Maj. Gen. Charles J. Cunningham, Jr., USAF
Director of Programs and Resources
Headquarters, United States Air Force

SUBJECT: Request for Permission to Conduct Technical Survey on
U.S. Air Force Bases []

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1. This memorandum requests permission to explore the feasibility of siting a communications relay station on a U.S. base in southern []

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2. Foreign Broadcast Information Service (FBIS), a component of the Central Intelligence Agency involved in the monitoring of foreign broadcasts, is in the early stages of a feasibility study to design a worldwide system to link FBIS monitoring stations with each other and FBIS Headquarters in Washington, D.C. This network, utilizing satellites, will permit a realtime exchange of radio, video, facsimile, and teletype signals among our field collection sites. The project title is INTERNET and has been coordinated with appropriate agencies and departments. []

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3. FBIS plans to use satellites over the Atlantic and Indian Oceans; based on preliminary studies, a relay station is required to link the two halves of the system. The station must be located between 4 degrees West and 35 degrees East. It is desirable that this station be on U.S.-controlled property, preferably a military base. []

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4. Preliminary design calculations show that the relay will require two 11-meter dish antennas, one facing the Atlantic satellite and the other directed toward the Indian Ocean. A modest structure to house the electronics associated with the receiving and transmitting equipment will also be required as an integral part of the relay station. Operating frequencies will be on the commercial satellite band (3.7-4.2 GHz, 5.9-6.4 GHz) and should pose no interference problem for military operations. We would like to explore the possibility of locating such dishes on a USAF installation, possibly in []

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5. If you concur, we would like to conduct preliminary surveys at candidate sites that your staff might identify. The purpose of the surveys would be to establish, for analysis purposes, such specifics as antenna look angle, frequency interference (RFI) from local microwave links, and other specific site factors. With this information we could then make a specific proposal for a permanent installation. []

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6. If permission were granted to locate such a site on a USAF base, FBIS would of course enter into an inter-service agreement providing for reimbursement of the Air Force for appropriate costs. FBIS at present has such an agreement at [] and []

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[] Full funding of site construction would be met by FBIS, which would also take responsibility for any necessary coordinations with the host government and the U.S. Embassy. []

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7. Thank you for your assistance. May I suggest your staff contact [] FBIS Chief Engineer [] for details. []

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[]
Acting Director
Foreign Broadcast Information Service

DDS&T/FBIS, [] (29Dec82)

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